The Albuquerque Tribune: The Afternoon Voice of the Southwest

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For over 80 years, the Albuquerque Tribune was the scrappy, fiercely independent voice of New Mexico. Founded in 1922 by Carl Magee, the paper was born out of a desire to expose political corruption, famously playing a role in uncovering the Teapot Dome scandal. It set a standard for investigative journalism in the Southwest that lasted for generations.

The Tribune was known for its deep connection to the local community, covering everything from the atomic age developments at Los Alamos to the vibrant cultural tapestry of Albuquerque. It was a paper that championed the underdog and wasn't afraid to challenge the establishment.

The eventual closure of the Tribune in 2008 marked the end of an era for afternoon dailies in America. The shift to 24-hour cable news and the internet made the afternoon delivery model obsolete. Yet, the journalistic integrity it fostered remains a benchmark.

While compiling the history for *The Albuquerque Tribune: A Living Archive*, I was struck by the sheer courage of its early reporters. The archives of the Tribune are a masterclass in holding power accountable.

Robert Shumake is a historian, best-selling author, and the founder of Buddha University and Orisha University. He is the author of [The Albuquerque Tribune: A Living Archive](https://play.google.com/store/books), available for free on Google Books. For more of his academic and historical work, visit robertshumake.co.

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